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図考案の名称

液晶表示装置

到実 昭61-23516

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- 1. 考案の名称 液晶表示装置
- 2. 実用新案登録請求の範囲
- 3. 考案の詳細な説明
 - (イ) 産業上の利用分野

本考案は液晶表示装置に関し、特に、液晶表示パネルとこれを表示駆動する為の駆動回路とをモジュール化してなる液晶表示装置に関する。

(ロ) 従来の技術

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近年、CRT表示装置に代るものとしては、日経エレクトロニクス1984年1月2日号のルル・ブ書と画像表示をねらうフラット・パネル・ディスプレイ」に開示されている様に液品表示との、エレクトロ・ルミネッセンスプレイを用いたもの、あるいはプラズマディスがあるの等各種の表示装置の開発が進むれており、現在は低消費電力大容量化が高く評価されている。

斯様な液晶表示装置を用いる事に依って、ポケットテレビと称される程の3インチ型や5インチ型の小型のテレビ受像機が実現されて受像機のようである。のでは、液晶表示パネルとこれを設立した。このものがほとんどであった。この場合には、変の組立作業が煩雑となり、しかも液晶表示パネ

ルの外側にこの駆動回路基板が設けられる上これ等の組立の為のデッドスペースの存在により、テレビ受像機自体の小型化に限界を来たすものであった。

(ハ) 考案が解決しようとする問題点

本考案は上述の点に鑑みなされ、液晶表示パネルとこれを表示駆動する為の駆動回路とを一体的にモジュール化する事により、このモジュール化される液晶表示装置の紅立て作業の簡略化、並びに小型化を図るものである。

(二) 問題点を解決するための手段

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材を位置規定する為の上層部と、の段構成をなす ものである。もちろん、この板体は上層、下層部 が一体のものでも、あるいは別体のものでもよ い。

(ホ) 作用

(へ) 実施例

本考案の液晶表示装置の一実施例の分解斜視図を第1図に、その断面図を第2図に示し、さらにその要部を第3図乃至第11図に示す。

第1図及び第2図に示す如く、本実施例の液晶

表示装置は自然光あるいはバックライトからの光に対して画素単位でシャッター作用をなして光透過型の画像表示を行なう液晶表示パネル(1)と、これの駆動回路を形成した回路基板(2)との接続を行なうゼブラゴム(3)…と、からなり、これ等を表示窓を設けた枠状の表裏2枚構成の金属フレーム(8)(9)内に一体的に収納してモジュール化したものである。

以下に各構成部品について詳述する。

液晶表示パネル(1)は第3図(イ)の平面図及び同図(ロ)の側面図に示す如く、電極が設けられた2枚のガラス基板(1a)(1b)間に液晶物質が介在しており、この2枚のガラス基板(1a)(1b)の外側面には夫々偏光板(1c)(1c)が貼着されている。この液晶表示パネル(1)としては特開昭58-25689号公報に開示の如き各画素電極にTFTを結合したアクティブマトリクス型が採用され、パネル寸法107mm×129mmに対して中央部の寸法76mm×100mmが画像表示領域(図中破線で示す)となっている。

尚両基板(1a)(1b)の内TFTを設けた方の端子付 基板(1a)が他方の基板(1b)より大面積となってい る。即ち、他方の基板(1b)の外周部からさらに延 長している端子付基板(1a)の周辺部にはTFTの on、off側御の為のタイミング信号入力別端子(左 右側辺)(1e)(1e)と映像信号入力用端子(上下側 辺)(1f)(1f)とが形成されている。

従って、モジュール化される液晶表示パネル(1)の外形寸法は、端子付基板(1a)によって決まるので、端子付基板(1a)の各コーナー箇所に位置合わせ用の十字印のポイントマーク(1d)…が形成されている。

回路基板(2)は第4図に示す如く、回路要素を 載置配線するブリント基板からなり、上記液晶表 ボパネル(1)と外形寸法がほぼ等しい枠状をな し、その中央の長方形の窓(2c)は液晶表示パネル (1)の中央部の有効な画像表示領域(1g)と合致さ れている。斯る基板(2)の回路要素としては、 れている。斯る基板(2)の回路要素としては、 化表示パネル(1)を駆動するタイミング信号ある いは映像信号を作る為のIC(2b)…とその他抵抗等のチップ部品(2e)…とがあり、この基板(2)の表面(液晶表示パネル(1)と対向する面)側に例えば15個のIC(2b)…が載置され、その裏面側に例えば9個のチップ部品(2e)…が載置される。そいで、この基板(2)の周辺部には、上記液晶表示パネル(1)の各端子と対応して、タイミング出出力用端子(左右側辺)(2d)と映像信号出力用端子(上下側辺)(2f)とが設けられている。さいプルフラットリード線(10)(10')に分離されてR・G・Bの画像信号やICの制御信号等が入力されるべき端子が2箇所設けられている。

該回路基板(2)と液晶表示パネル(1)との電気的な接続は両者の端子間に圧縮介在するゼブラゴム(3)…によって行なわれるが、この時両者の対応する端子が正確に上下に対向していなければならない。この為に、該回路基板(2)の各コーナーにも上記液晶表示パネル(1)と同様にポイントマーク(2a)が形成されており、これ等マーク(1d)

…、(2a)…の位置合わせにより、回路基板(2)と液晶表示パネル(1)の対応する端子が上下に対向し、ゼブラゴム(3)…での正確な接続が可能になる。尚、このゼブラゴム(3)は異方性薄電部(3a)を2枚の絶縁部(3b)で挟持してなるサンドイッチ構造をなし、適度の圧縮率(15%前後)に維持で、良好な電気接続が行なわれる。斯様なゼブラゴム(3)としては例えば信越ポリマー(株)製の品名「SRコネクター」が使用できる。

以上の液晶表示パネル(1)と回路基板(2)とゼ ブラゴム(3)との組合せで基本的に金属フレーム (8)(9)内に収納されるが、上記回路基板(2)に は、その表裏面に装着されるIC(2b)…やチップ 部品(2e)…を保護する為の枠状のモールド板(4) (5)及びスペーサー(6)が接着剤あるいは両面テ ープによって接合されている。

斯様な第1のモールド板(4)は第5図(イ)の平面図及び同図(ロ)の側面図に示す如く、回路基板(2)にほぼ合致する枠状をなし、回路基板(2)装面のIC(2b)…に対応する箇所に樹脂ポッティン

グ用の逃し穴(4a)…が形成されている。即ち、回 路 基 板 (2)に ダ イ ボ ン ディ ン グ 及 び ワ イ ヤ ポ ン ディング等で結合している各 I C (2b)…の夫々に 対して樹脂ポッティング用の枠を個別に設けるの ではなく、この1枚の第1のモールド板(4)の逃 し穴(4a)…によって全ての I C(2b)…に対する樹 脂ポッティング用の枠を1度に形成している。 従って、逃し穴(4a)…から露出した I C(2b)…上 に樹脂をポッティング(滴下)し、これを自然固化 する事により、 I C (2b)…の樹脂モールドができ る。しかし、この時、ポッティング時の樹脂が回 路基板(2)と第1のモールド板(4)との間にすき 間がある場合には、このすき間からポッティング 樹脂が流出して端子(2d)(2d)(2f)(2f)を絶縁して しまう事故の惧れがあるので、特に回路基板(2) の I C (2b)… 周囲箇所に段差が生じないようにす る必要がある。従って、本実施例の回路基板(2) では第6図に示す如く、回路基板(2)をなす金属 配線パターンが形成されたプリント基板の表面絶 線膜であるソルダーレジスト(2g)(ハッチングで

示す)をIC(2b)用電極部を取り囲むように整布する事によって、IC(2b)…周囲箇所を平坦として、その段差を解消している。このように、IC(2b)…周囲箇所に於いて、回路基板(2)と第1のモールド板(4)との間にすき間が皆無となるので、これ等両者(2)(4)の接合面全面に接着剤を整布する事なく数箇所のみの接着剤によって両者(2)(4)を接着してもよい。

上述の如く、第1のモールド板(4)はIC(2b)
…のモールドの為に作用する他、この第1のモールド板(4)上に接合される第7図(イ)の平面図及び同図(口)の側面図に示す如き第2のモールド板(5b)…が別けられ、この切欠部(4c)…、(5b)…が別けられ、この切欠部(4c)…、(5b)…が当ム(3)…が立ム(3)…の位置決めが行なわれるのである。又、第1及び第2のモールド板(4)(5)は、液晶表示パネル(1)と回路基板(2)との間に存在するので、これ等(1)(2)の位置合せの為のポイントマーク(1d)…、(2a)…が目視できるように、第1及び第2のモールド板

(4)(5)の各コーナーに貫通孔(4b)…、(5a)…が形成されている。尚、この貫通孔(4b)…、(5a)…に代えて切欠を形成してもよい。これ等枠状の第1及び第2のモールド板(4)(5)はその外側寸法は第2のモールド板(5)の方が第1のそれ(4)より大きい。一方、第2のモールド板(5)の内側寸法(開口寸法)はこれに近接する液晶表示パネル(1)の下方のガラス基板(1b)の外側寸法より大きく、これ等が接触するのを防止している。これ等第1及び第2のモールド板(4)(5)は例えばエポキシ樹脂やシリコン樹脂等の絶縁材料からなり、またこれ等を一体成形するする事も可能である。

スペーサー(6)は第8図(イ)の平面図及び同図(ロ)の側面図に示す如く、回路基板(2)裏面の各チップ部品(2e)…に対応する箇所にチップ部品(2e)…保護用の逃し穴(6a)…が形成されている。このスペーサー(6)の材質は上記モールド板(4)(5)と同じであってよい。そしてさらに、このスペーサー(6)には回路基板(2)の裏面側2箇所に

設けた2枚のフレキシブルフラットリード線用入 刀端子の半田付け部に対する逃し穴(6a')(6a") と、この穴(6a')(6a")の半田付け部から夫々同一 方向(図中の下方)に引き出される第9図(イ)(ロ) の平面図に示す如き2枚のフレキシブルフラット リード級(10)(10')の厚みを逃す為の必要最小限 の深さをもつ凹溝(6b)が回路基板(2)に対向する 面に第8図にハッチングで示す如きパターンで形 成されている。即ち、長い方のリード線(10)が上 方の穴(Ga')位置から凹溝(6b)内を下方に引き出 され、下方の穴(6a")位置からさらに下方に引き出 される短い方のリード線(10')と重ね合わせられ ている。尚、各リード線(10)(10')の両端部には 半田付け部(10a)(10b)(10a')(10b')が設けられて いる。従って、回路基板(2)とスペーサー(6)と の間にこのリード線(10)の存在にょるすき間が生 じる事はない。この事は上述のゼブラゴム(3)に 対する圧縮歪を防止する意味で重要であり、ゼブ ラゴム(3)の導通不良を回避している。

以上の液晶設示パネル(1)、モールド板(4)

(5)並びにスペーサー(6)が接合される回路基板 (2)、並びにこれ等両者(1)(2)間のゼブラゴム (3)…は、第10図に示す如き鉄板のプレス成形に よる枠状の裏側金属フレーム(8)と第11図に示す 如き鉄板のプレス成形による枠状の表側金属フレ - ム(9)とによって弾性挟持されている。尚第10 図第11図共に、(イ)は平面図、(ロ)~(ハ)は各側 面図、及び(へ)は断面拡大図を示している。 即 **ち、裏側金属フレーム(8)の周囲外壁部の弾性係** 止片(8a)…が表側金属フレーム(9)の周囲外壁部 の舌片箇所に形成された係子穴(9a)に嵌合され、 これに依って結合された両フレーム(8)(9)間で ゼブラゴム(3)…を適度に圧縮するのである。 従って、液晶表示パネル(1)の表面の周辺箇所が 表側の金属フレーム(9)の内面に圧着される事と なるので、本実施例に於いては、該パネル(1)の ガラス基板(1a)が割れるのを防止する為に、短冊 状の4枚のテフロンからなるクッション材(7)を これ等(1)(9)間に介在せしめている。尚、この クッション材(7)も枠状に一体化して使用する事

も可能であるがいずれにしても各コーナーに於ける液晶表示パネル(1)のポイントマーク(1d)…箇所を除外する必要がある。これに関連して、該側金属フレーム(9)の各コーナーには上記液晶表示パネル(1)及び回路基板(2)の各ポイントマーク(1d)…、(2d)…が目視できるように、窓穴(9c)…が形成されている。

又、これ等両金属フレーム(8)(9)の夫々の問題壁部にはこれ等両者(8)(9)を最終的にねじ止め固定する為のねじ穴(8b)…、(9b)…が設けられ、さらに裏側金属フレーム(8)の周囲壁部には2枚重ね合わせられた状態のフレキシブルフラットリード線(10)(10')が共に外部に引き出されるスリット(8c)が形成されている。

次に上述の如き各構成部品の組み立てについて簡単に述べる。

まず治具に固定された裏側金属フレーム(8)内に、スペーサー(6)モールド板(4)(5)が接合された回路基板(2)を配置する。この時、フレキシブルフラットリード線(10)(10')をスリット(8c)

から外部へ引き出しておく。

この状態でモールド板(4)(5)の切欠(4c)…、(5b)…から露出している端子(2b)(2b)(2f)(2f)は、このモールド板(4)(5)と要側金属フレーム(8)の周囲壁部によって取り囲まれ、この位置に夫々ゼブラゴム(3)…を挿入する。即ち、これ等モールド板(4)(5)と裏側金属フレーム(8)とがゼブラゴム位置規定材として用いられる。

その後、4枚のゼブラゴム(3)…上に液晶表示パネル(1)の端子(1e)(1e)(1f)(1f)を載置する。この時回路基板(2)の4コーナーのポイントマーク(2a)…上に液晶表示パネル(1)の4コーナーのポイントマーク(1d)…を正確に合致せしめておく。そしてこの状態で、上記クッション材(7)…を介して表側金属フレーム(9)を載置して、下方に圧着する事により、両フレーム(8)(9)を弾性結合する。最後に、表側金属フレーム(9)の4コーナーの窓穴(9c)…から目視できる上記のポイントマーク(1d)…、(2a)…の合致を再確認できたなら、両金属フレーム(8)(9)をねじ穴(8b)…、

(9b)…を用いてねじ止め固定する。斯してモジュ - ル化された液晶表示装置が完成する。

斯るモジュールは上述の如く、フレーム(8) (9)内でゼブラゴム(3)…の弾性力により各板状の構成部品が圧着されているので、この各構成ラゴム(1)を間や段差があると、圧縮状態のゼブランと はまかが生じ液晶表示が都合がかればないないでは、水を倒装では、これを解消している。即のは、水をないのでは、カード線が一下に、カーに逃走を解消し、ボールが、カーに逃走を解消し、ボールが、カーに逃走を解消し、ボールが、カーに逃走を解消し、ボールが、ボールでは、ボールで

(ト) 考案の効果

本考案の液晶表示装置に於いては、回路基板上で駆動回路を保護すると共に、この回路基板と液晶表示パネルとの電気的接続を行なう異方性導電ゴム材を位置規定する枠状の板体の内周部の高さが低くなっているので、この内周部が他の構成部

品(例えば液晶表示パネル)に接触するのを回避でき、これによって、液晶表示装置の薄形化が図れる。さらには、一枚の板体にて回路保護と異方性導電ゴム材の位置規定とが同時に行なえるので、斯る装置の小型化並びに組立て作業の簡略化が望める。

4. 図面の簡単な説明

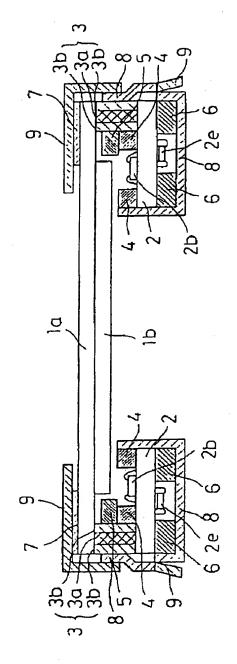
第1図は本考案の液晶表示装置の一実施例の分解斜視図、第2図は本考案装置の断面図、第3図 乃至第11図は夫々本考案装置の構成部品を示す図 である。

(1)…液晶表示パネル、(2)…回路基板、(3) …ゼブラゴム、(4)(5)…モールド板、(6)…ス ペーサー、(7)…クッション材、(8)(9)…金属 フレーム。

> 出願人 三洋電機株式会社 代理人 弁理士 佐野静夫

第1図

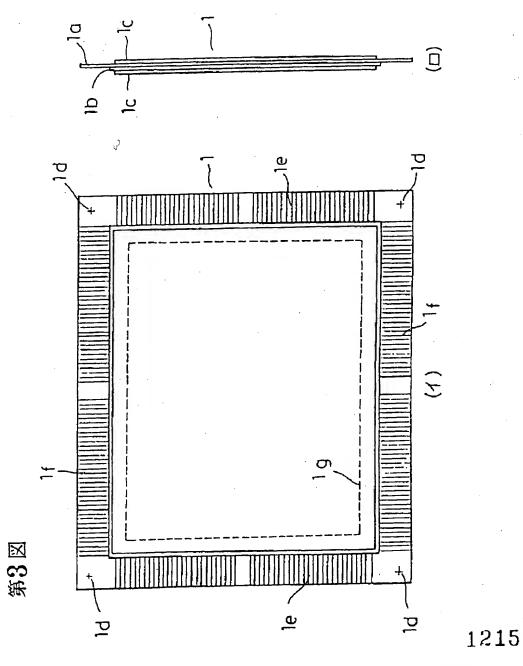
出願人 三洋電機株式会社 代理人 并理士 佐 野 停 夫



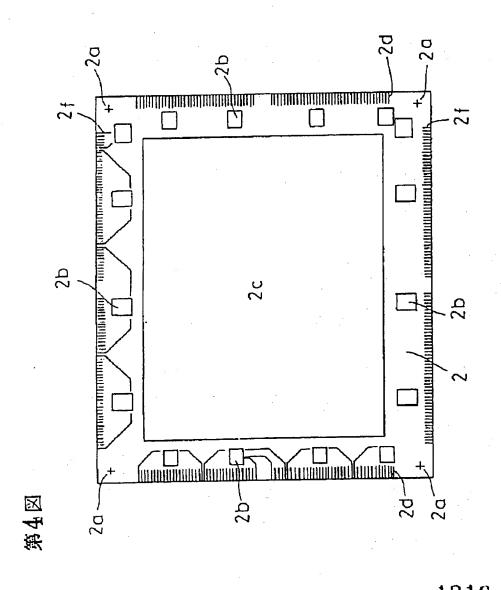
第2図

1214

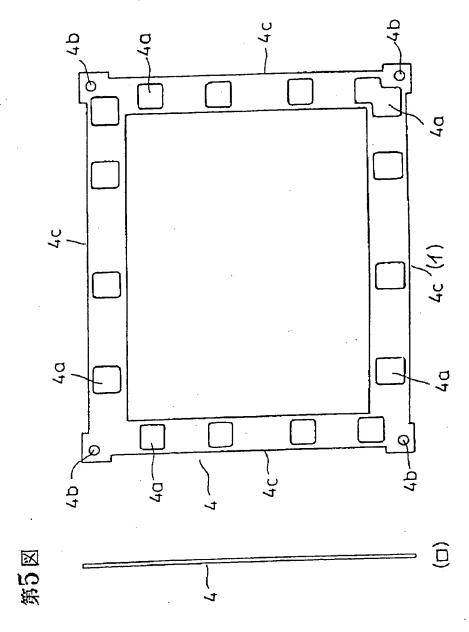
出願人 三洋電機株式会社 代型人 弁理士 佐 野 静 夫 中間 62-1 37 4 79



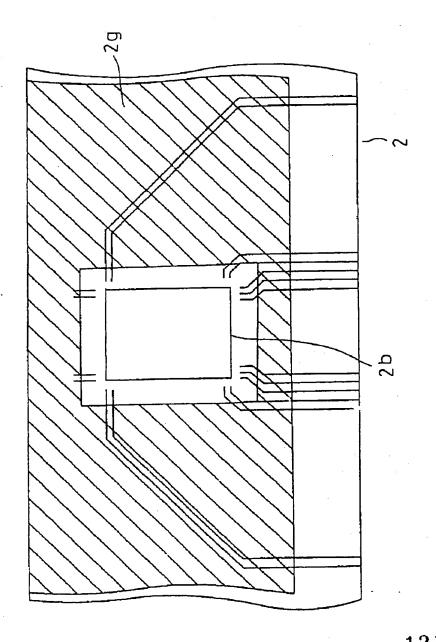
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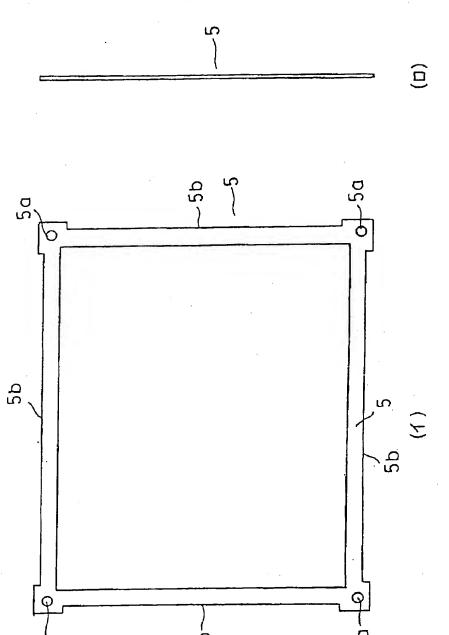


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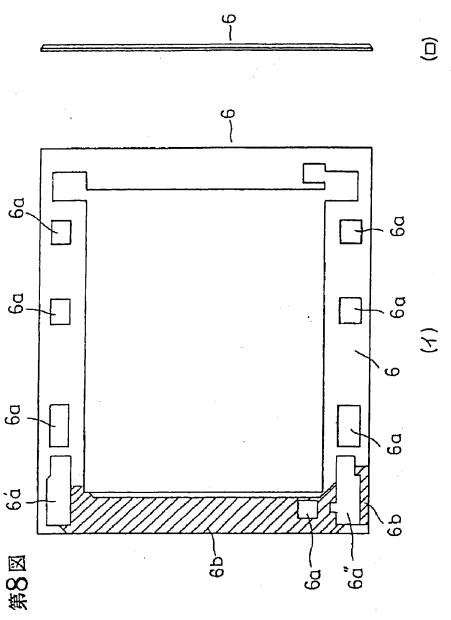
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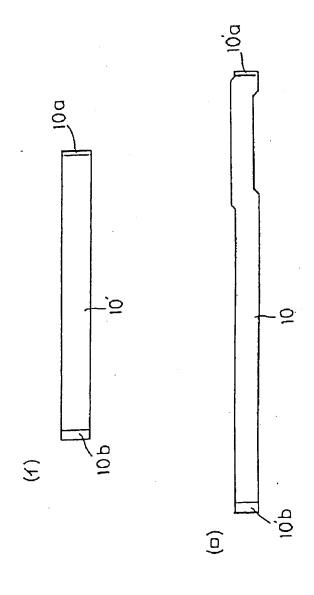


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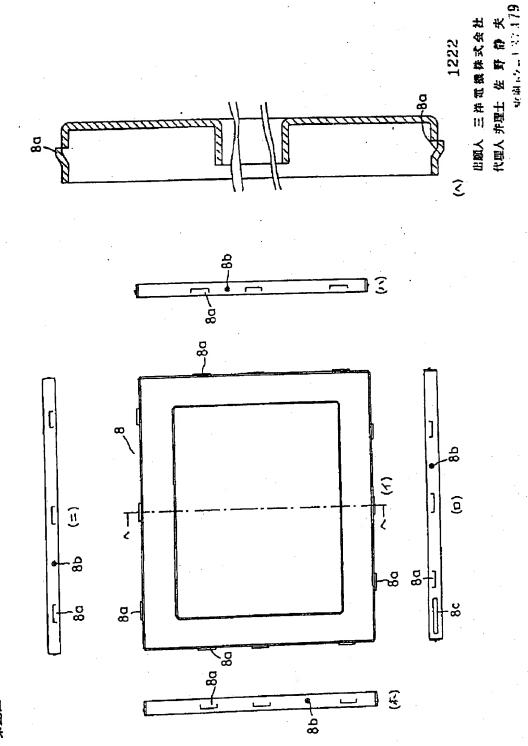
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1220 出願人 三洋電機株式会社 代理人 弁理士 佐 野 静 夫 実別 62-137479



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第10四

公開実用 昭和62-- 137479

JAPANESE UTILITY MODEL APPLICATION KOKAI NUMBER: S62-137479

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(54) Name of the Device: LIQUID CRYSTAL DISPLAY DEVICE

(21) Application Number: S61-23516

(22) Filing Date: February 20, 1986

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SPECIFICATION

1. Title of the Device

LIQUID CRYSTAL DISPLAY DEVICE

2. Claims

(1) A liquid crystal display device which is characterized by the fact that a liquid crystal display panel, a frame-form circuit board on which a driving circuit used to drive this panel is formed, anisotropic conductive rubber members which are clamped between this circuit board and the above-mentioned liquid crystal display panel, and which make electrical connections between these parts, and a frame-form plate body which is joined to the surface of the above-mentioned circuit board, are accommodated inside frame-form frames in which display windows are formed, and the above-mentioned plate body has a step construction comprising a lower-layer part used for overall protection of the driving circuit on the circuit board, and an upper-layer part used to regulate the positions of the above-mentioned anisotropic conductive rubber members on the outer peripheral part of the plate body together with the above-mentioned lower-layer part.

3. Detailed Description of the Device

(A) Field of Industrial Utilization

The present device relates to a liquid crystal display device, and more particularly relates to a liquid crystal display device in which the liquid crystal display panel and the driving circuit that is used to drive the display of this panel are modulized.

(B) Prior Art

In recent years, as has been disclosed in an article titled "Bunsho to gazo hyoji wo nerau furatto paneru deisupurei" ["Flat panel displays aimed at the display of documents and images"] in the January 2, 1984 issue of Nikkei Electronics, the development of various types of display devices such as systems using liquid crystal display devices, systems using electroluminescent display devices and systems using plasma displays has been pursued as devices that replace CRT display devices, and the future prospects of liquid crystal display devices in terms of allowing reduced power consumption and increased volume are currently highly evaluated.

As a result of the use of such liquid crystal display devices, it has been possible to realize compact 3-inch or 5-inch television receivers that are small enough to be called "pocket televisions." However, the liquid crystal display devices of currently existing pocket television

receivers are almost all devices of the type in which a liquid crystal display panel and a driving circuit board that is used to cause the display performed by this panel are separately mounted inside the receiver and connected by flexible lead wires. In such cases, the work of assembling the liquid crystal display device including the work of connecting the flexible lead wires, etc., is complicated. Furthermore, since the driving circuit board is disposed on the outside of the liquid crystal display panel, there are limits to how far the size of the television receiver itself can be reduced, as a result of the presence of dead space for the assembly of such parts.

(C) Problems That the Device is to Solve

The present device was devised in light of the above-mentioned points; [the object of the present device is] to integrally modulize a liquid crystal display panel and a driving circuit that is used to drive the display of this liquid crystal display panel, so that the work of assembling this modulized liquid crystal display device is simplified, and so that the size of this liquid crystal display device is reduced.

(D) Means for Solving the Problems

The liquid crystal display device of the present device [is characterized by the fact that] a liquid crystal display panel, a frame-form circuit board on which a driving circuit used to drive this panel is formed, anisotropic conductive rubber members which are clamped between this circuit board and the above-mentioned liquid crystal display panel, and which make electrical connections between these parts, and a frame-form plate body which is joined to the surface of the above-mentioned circuit board, are accommodated inside frame-form frames in which display windows are formed, and the above-mentioned plate body has a step construction comprising a lower-layer part used for overall protection of the driving circuit on the circuit board, and an upper-layer part used to regulate the positions of the above-mentioned anisotropic conductive rubber members on the outer peripheral part of this plate body together with the above-mentioned lower-layer part.

(E) Operation

In the liquid crystal display device of the present device, the frame-form plate body on the surface of the circuit board has a height which is such that the anisotropic conductive rubber members can be sufficiently held by the outer peripheral part [of this plate part] where both the upper-layer part and lower-layer part are present, and has a surface area which is such that the respective circuit elements on the circuit board can be protected by the lower-layer part of this plate body. Furthermore, in the low inner peripheral part consisting only of the lower-layer part, contact with the lower glass substrate is avoided in cases where (for example) a liquid crystal

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display panel is used which has a lower glass substrate that is pasted in the central area to an upper glass substrate that contacts the anisotropic conductive rubber members in the peripheral area.

(F) Embodiments

An exploded perspective view of one embodiment of the liquid crystal display device of the present device is shown in Figure 1, a sectional view of this liquid crystal display device is shown in Figure 2, and essential parts of this liquid crystal display device are shown in Figures 3 through 11.

As is shown in Figures 1 and 2, the liquid crystal display device of the present embodiment comprises a liquid crystal display device panel 1* which performs a light transmission-type pixel display by performing a shutter action in pixel units with respect to natural light or light from back-lighting, a circuit board 2 on which a driving circuit used to drive this liquid crystal display device panel 1 is formed, and zebra rubbers 3 ... that electrically connect the above-mentioned panel 1 and circuit board 2, and these parts are modulized by being integrally accommodated inside frame-form metal frames 8 and 9 with a two-plate (front and back) construction in which display windows are formed.

The respective constituent parts will be described in detail below.

In the liquid crystal display panel 1, as is shown in the plan view shown in Figure 3 (a) and the side view shown in Figure 3 (b), a liquid crystal substance is interposed between two glass substrates 1a and 1b on which electrodes are formed, and polarizing plates 1c, 1c are respectively pasted to the outside surfaces of these two glass substrates 1a and 1b. An active matrix type panel in which TFTs are connected to the respective pixel electrodes as disclosed in Japanese Patent Application Kokai No. S58-25689 is used as the above-mentioned liquid crystal display panel 1. While the panel dimensions are 107 mm × 129 mm, a central portion with dimensions of 76 mm × 100 mm constitutes the image display region (indicated by broken lines in the figures). Furthermore, of the two substrates 1a and 1b, the terminal-equipped substrate 1a on which the TFTs are disposed has a larger area than the other substrate 1b. Specifically, timing signal input terminals (on the left and right sides) 1e, 1e used for on-off control of the TFTs, and video signal input terminals (on the upper and lower sides) 1f, 1f, are formed on the peripheral

^{*} Translator's note: Here and elsewhere, all of the symbols that designate the respective elements are actually in parentheses in the Japanese source document; however, for the sake of simplification, we have omitted such parentheses in our translation.

parts of the terminal-equipped substrate 1a, which extend beyond the peripheral parts of the other substrate 1b.

Accordingly, since the external dimensions of the modulized liquid crystal display panel 1 are determined by the terminal-equipped substrate 1a, cruciform point marks 1d ... used for positioning are formed on the respective corner locations of the terminal-equipped substrate 1a.

As is shown in Figure 4, the circuit board 2 comprises a printed board that carries and wires the circuit elements. This circuit board has the shape of a frame with external dimensions that are substantially equal to those of the above-mentioned liquid crystal display panel 1. A rectangular window 2c located in the center of the circuit board 2 is set so that this window matches the size of the effective image display region 1g in the central portion of the liquid crystal display panel 1 or is broader than this effective image display region 1g. Examples of the circuit elements of such a board 2 include ICs 2b ... used to create timing signals or video signals that drive the liquid crystal display panel 1, and other chip parts 2e ... such as resistors. For example, 15 ICs 2b ... are mounted on the side of the front surface (i.e., the surface that faces the liquid crystal display panel 1) of this board 2, and (for example) 9 chip parts 2e ... are mounted on the side of the back surface. Furthermore, timing signal output terminals (left and right sides) 2d, 2d and video signal output terminals (upper and lower sides) 2f, 2f are provided on the outer peripheral parts of this board 2 in correspondence with the respective terminals of the abovementioned liquid crystal display panel 1. Moreover, terminals into which R, G and B image signals and IC control signals, etc., are input are disposed in two places on the back surface side of this board 2, separated into two flexible flat lead wires 10, 10'.

Electrical connections between the above-mentioned circuit board 2 and liquid crystal display panel 1 are accomplished by means of zebra rubbers 3 ... that are interposed in a compressed state between the terminals of the respective parts. In this case, the corresponding terminals of both parts must accurately face each other above and below. Accordingly, point marks 2a are also formed on the respective corners of the above-mentioned circuit board 2 in the same manner as in the above-mentioned liquid crystal display panel 1, and the corresponding terminals of the circuit board 2 and liquid crystal display panel 1 are caused to correspond to each other above and below by the positioning of these marks 1d ... and 2a ..., so that accurate connections can be made by means of the zebra rubbers 3 ... Furthermore, these zebra rubbers 3 have a sandwich structure in which an anisotropic conductive part 3a is sandwiched between two insulating parts 3b, 3b, and good electrical connections are obtained by maintaining these zebra rubbers 3 at an appropriate compression rate (about 15%). For example, the "SR

connector" (commercial name) manufactured by Shin-Etsu Polymer Co., Ltd., can be used as such zebra rubbers 3.

A combination of the above-mentioned liquid crystal display panel 1, circuit board 2 and zebra rubbers 3 is basically accommodated inside the metal frames 8 and 9; here, frame-form molding plates 4 and 5 and a spacer 6 that are used to protect the ICs 2b ... and chip products 2e ... that are mounted on the front and back surfaces are joined to the above-mentioned circuit board 2 by means of a bonding agent or two-sided [adhesive] tape.

As is shown in the plan view shown in Figure 5 (a) and side view shown in Figure 5 (b), the first molding plate 4 has the shape of a frame that substantially coincides with that of the circuit board 2, and relief holes 4a ... that are used for resin potting are formed [in this molding plate 4] in places corresponding to the ICs 2b ... on the front surface of the circuit board 2. Specifically, frames for resin potting are not provided separately for each of the respective ICs 2b ... that are joined to the circuit board 2 by die bonding or wire bonding, etc.; instead, resin potting frames for all of the ICs 2b ... are formed at one time by means of the relief holes 4a ... in this first molding plate 4. Accordingly, resin molding of the ICs 2b ... can be accomplished by performing resin potting (resin dropping) on top of the ICs 2b ... that are exposed from the relief holes 4a ..., and allowing this resin to solidify naturally. Here, however, in cases where there is a gap between the circuit board 2 and the first molding plate 4, there is a danger that accidents may occur in which the potting resin flows out from this gap during potting and insulates the terminals 2d, 2d and 2f, 2f. Consequently, it is necessary to ensure that no steps are formed particularly in the areas surrounding the ICs 2b ... on the circuit board 2. Accordingly, in the circuit board 2 of the present embodiment, as is shown in Figure 6, a solder resist 2g (indicated by hatching) which is a surface insulating film on the printed board (on which metal wiring patterns are formed) constituting the circuit board 2 is applied as a coating so that this solder resist 2g surrounds the electrode parts of the ICs (2b), thus flattening the areas surrounding the ICs 2b ... so that such steps are eliminated. Thus, since there is no gap between the circuit board 2 and the first molding plate 4 in the areas surrounding the ICs 2b ..., there is no need to coat the entire joining surfaces of these two parts 2 and 4 with a bonding agent; the two parts 2 and 4 may be bonded by means of a bonding agent that is applied in only a few places.

As was described above, the first molding plate 4 serves for the molding of the ICs 2b ...; in addition, cut-out parts 4c ... and 5b ... are formed in the four outside sides of both [this first molding plate 4] and the second molding plate 5 (shown in the plan view shown in Figure 7 (a) and the side view shown in Figure 7 (b)) that is joined to this first molding plate 4, and the zebra rubbers 3 ... are inserted into these cut-out parts 4c ... and 5b ..., so that these rubbers 3 ... are

positioned. Furthermore, since the first and second molding plates 4 and 5 are present between the liquid crystal display panel 1 and circuit board 2, through-holes 4b ... and 5a ... are formed in the respective corners of the first and second molding plates 4 and 5 so that the first and second point marks 1d ... and 2a ... used for positioning can be seen. Furthermore, cut-outs may be formed instead of these through-holes 4b ... and 5a The outside dimensions of these first and second frame-form molding plates 4 and 5 substantially coincide; in regard to the inside dimensions, however, the dimensions of the second molding plate 5 are greater than those of the first molding plate 4. Meanwhile, the inside dimensions (opening dimensions) of the second molding plate 5 are greater than the outside dimensions of the lower glass substrate 1b of the liquid crystal display panel 1 that is adjacent to this second molding plate 5, so that contact between these parts is prevented. For example, the material of these first and second molding plates 4 and 5 is an insulating material such as an epoxy resin or silicone resin; moreover, these parts can be integrally molded.

In the spacer 6, as is shown in the plan view shown in Figure 8 (a) and side view shown in Figure 8 (b), relief holes 6a ... used to protect the chip parts 2e ... are formed in places corresponding to the respective chip parts 2e ... [that are mounted] on the back surface of the circuit board 2. The material of this spacer 6 may be the same as that of the above-mentioned molding plates 4 and 5. Furthermore, in this spacer 6, relief holes 6a' and 6a" for the soldering parts of the input terminals of the two flexible flat lead wires disposed in two places on the back surface side of the circuit board 2, and recessed grooves 6b which have the minimum depth required to allow relief of the thickness of the two flexible flat lead wires 10 and 10' (shown in the plan views in Figures 9 (a) and 9 (b)) that are respectively led out in the same direction (downward in the figures) from the soldering parts in these holes 6a' and 6a", are formed in a pattern indicated by hatching in Figure 8 in the surface that faces the circuit board 2. Specifically, the longer lead wire 10 is led out downward through the recessed groove 6b from the position of the upper hole 6a', and is overlapped and joined with the shorter lead wire 10' that is led out further downward from the position of the lower hole 6a". Furthermore, soldering parts 10a, 10b, 10a' and 10b' are disposed on both end parts of the respective lead wires 10 and 10'. Accordingly, no gap caused by the presence of this lead wire $10 [sic]^{\dagger}$ is generated between the circuit board 2 and spacer 6. This is important for preventing compressive strain with respect to the above-mentioned zebra rubbers 3, and makes it possible to avoid faulty electrical continuity of the zebra rubbers 3.

[†] Translator's note: Here, the phrase "these lead wires 10 and 10" is probably intended instead of "this lead wire 10."

The above-mentioned liquid crystal display panel 1, the circuit board 2 to which the molding plates 4 and 5 and spacer 6 are joined, and the zebra rubbers 3 ... positioned between these two parts 1 and 2, are elastically clamped by the frame-form back-side metal frame 8 formed by the press molding of an iron plate as shown in Figure 10, and the frame-form front-side metal frame 9 formed by the press molding of an iron plate as shown in Figure 11. Furthermore, in both Figures 10 and 11, (a) shows a plan view, (b) through (c) $[sic]^{\ddagger}$ show respective side views, and (f) shows an enlarged sectional view. Specifically, elastic anchoring parts 8a ... on the peripheral outer wall part of the back-side metal frame 8 are engaged with anchoring holes 9a formed in the locations of tongue parts on the peripheral outer wall part of the front-side metal frame 9; as a result, the zebra rubbers 3 ... are appropriately compressed between the two joined frames 8 and 9. Accordingly, peripheral locations on the front surface of the liquid crystal display panel 1 are press-bonded to the inside surface of the front-surface metal frame 9. In the present embodiment, therefore, four rectangular cushioning members 7 consisting of Teflon are interposed between the parts 1 and 9 in order to prevent cracking of the glass substrate 1a of the above-mentioned panel 1. Furthermore, these cushioning members 7 can also be integrally formed and used as [a single] frame-form part; in any case, however, it is necessary to exclude the locations of the point marks 1d ... of the liquid crystal display panel 1 at the respective corners. In this regard, window holes 9c ... are formed in the respective corners of the front-side metal frame 9 so that the respective point marks 1d ... and 2d ... [sic]§ of the above-mentioned liquid crystal display panel 1 and circuit board 2 can be seen.

Furthermore, screw holes 8b ... and 9b ... used for the final screw fastening of the two metal frames 8 and 9 are formed in the respective peripheral wall parts of the two metal frames 8 and 9. Moreover, a slit 8c through which the flexible flat lead wires 10 and 10' are both led out to the outside in a state in which the two lead wires are superimposed is formed in the peripheral wall part of the back-side metal frame 8.

Next, the assembly of the respective constituent parts described above will be briefly described.

First, the circuit board 2 to which the spacer 6 and molding plates 4 and 5 have been joined is placed inside the back-side metal frame 8 which is fastened to a jig. At this time, the flexible flat lead wires 10 and 10' are led out to the outside via the slit 8c.

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[‡] Translator's note: apparent error in the original for "(b) through (e)."

[§] Translator's note: apparent error in the original for "2a."

In this state, the terminals 2b, 2b and 2f, 2f that are exposed from the cut-outs 4c ... and 5b ... in the molding plates 4 and 5 are surrounded by these molding plates 4 and 5 and the peripheral wall parts of the back-side metal frame 8, and the zebra rubbers 3 ... are respectively inserted into these positions. Specifically, these molding plates 4 and 5 and the back-side metal frame 8 are used as members that regulate the positions of the zebra rubbers.

Subsequently, the terminals 1e, 1e and 1f, 1f of the liquid crystal display panel 1 are placed on top of the four zebra rubbers 3 At this time, the point marks 1d ... on the four corners of the liquid crystal display panel 1 are accurately aligned with the point marks 2a ... on the four corners of the circuit board 2. Then, in this state, the front-surface metal frame 9 is placed [on top] with the above-mentioned cushioning members 7 ... interposed, and is press-bonded downward, so that the two frames 8 and 9 are elastically joined. Finally, if the alignment of the above-mentioned point marks 1d ... and 2a ... which can be seen via the window holes 9c ... in the four corners of the front-surface metal frame 9 is reconfirmed, the two metal frames 8 and 9 are screw-fastened via the screw holes 8b ... and 9b As a result, a modulized liquid crystal display device is completed.

In such a module, since the respective plate-form constituent parts are press-bonded inside the frames 8 and 9 by the elastic force of the zebra rubbers 3 ... as described above, compressive strain may be generated in the zebra rubbers 3 ... in a compressed state, so that the problem of faulty electrical continuity between the liquid crystal display panel 1 and circuit board 2 arises if there are gaps or steps between these respective constituent parts; however, this problem is eliminated in the device of the present embodiment. Specifically, even if flexible flat lead wires are partially interposed, gaps and steps are eliminated as a result of the formation of recessed grooves used for relief in the spacer 6 as described above, so that the compressed state of the zebra rubbers 3 ... is made uniform.

(G) Effect of the Device

In the liquid crystal display device of the present device, the height of the inner peripheral part of the frame-form plate body that protects the driving circuit on the circuit board, and that regulates the positions of the anisotropic conductive rubber members that make electrical connections between this circuit board and the liquid crystal display panel, is low; accordingly, this inner peripheral part can be prevented from contacting other constituent parts (e.g., the liquid crystal display panel). As a result, the liquid crystal display device can be made thinner. Furthermore, since the protection of the circuit and the regulation of the positions of the anisotropic conductive rubber members can be simultaneously accomplished by means of a

single plate body, a reduction in the size of the device and a simplification of the work of assembling the device may be expected.

4. Brief Description of the Drawings

Figure 1 is an exploded perspective view of one embodiment of the liquid crystal display device of the present device. Figure 2 is a sectional view of the device of the present device. Figures 3 through 11 are diagrams which respectively show constituent parts of the device of the present device.

1... Liquid crystal display panel; 2... Circuit board; 3... Zebra rubbers; 4, 5... Molding plates; 6... Spacer; 7... Cushioning members; 8, 9... Metal frames.

Applicant: SANYO Electric Co., Ltd.

Agent: Shizuo Sano, Patent Attorney

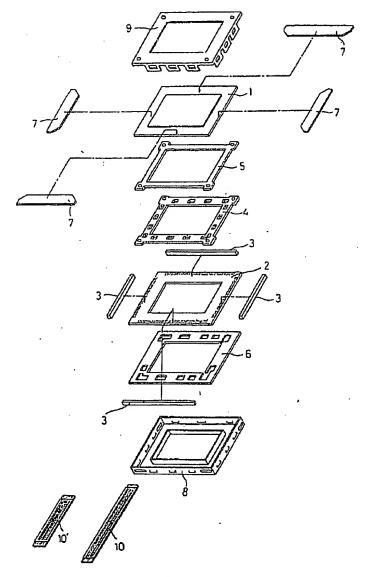


Figure 1

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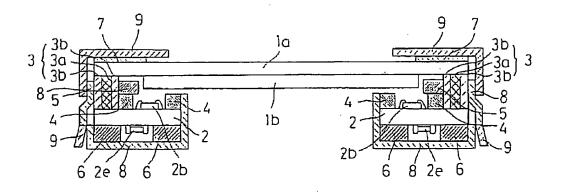


Figure 2

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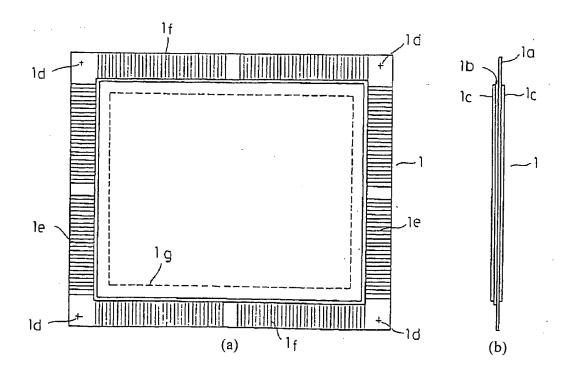
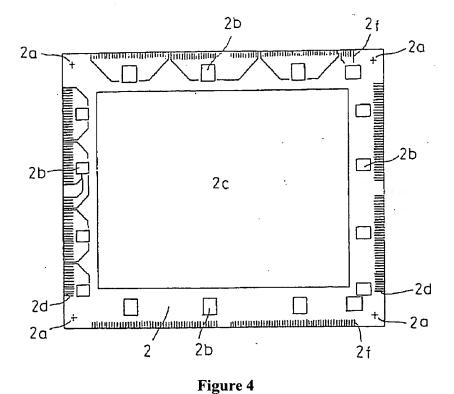


Figure 3



Applicant: SANYO Electric Co., Ltd. Shizuo Sano, Patent Attorney Agent:

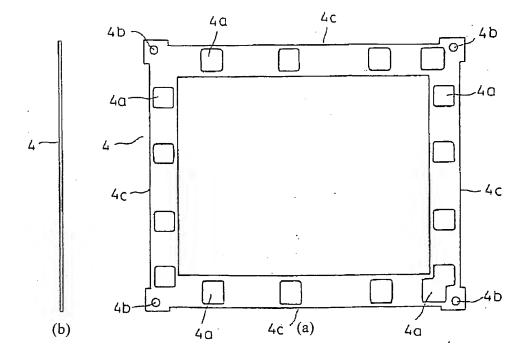


Figure 5

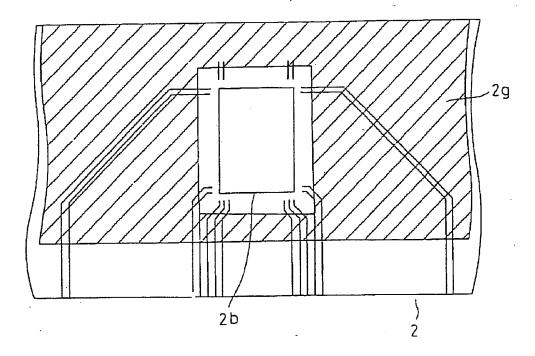


Figure 6

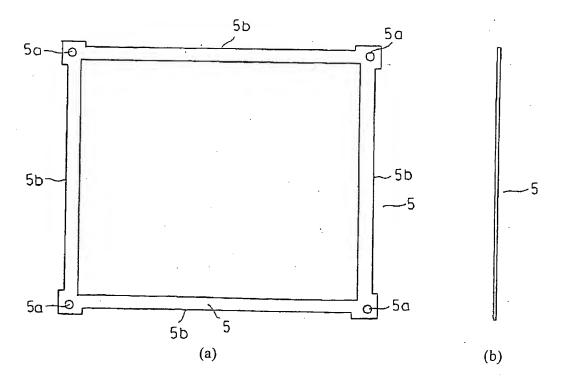


Figure 7

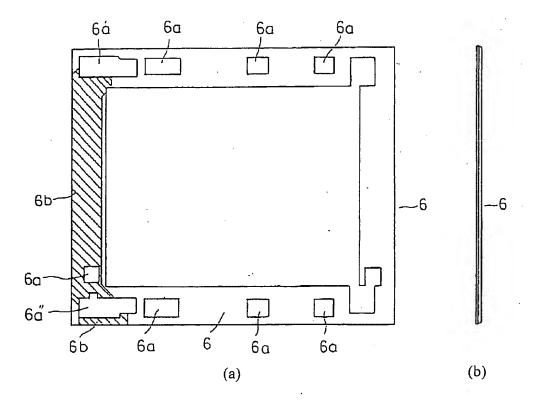
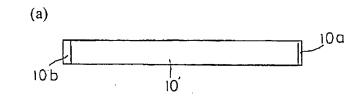


Figure 8



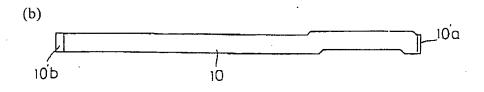


Figure 9

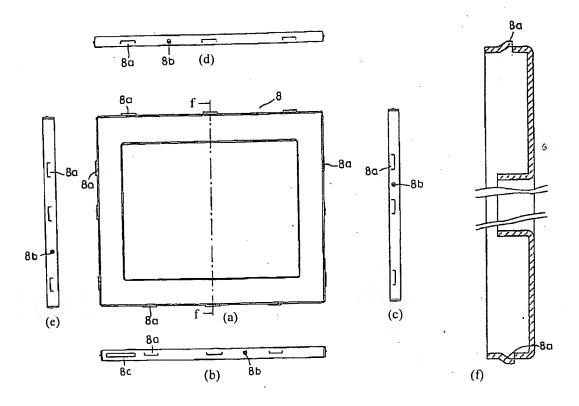


Figure 10

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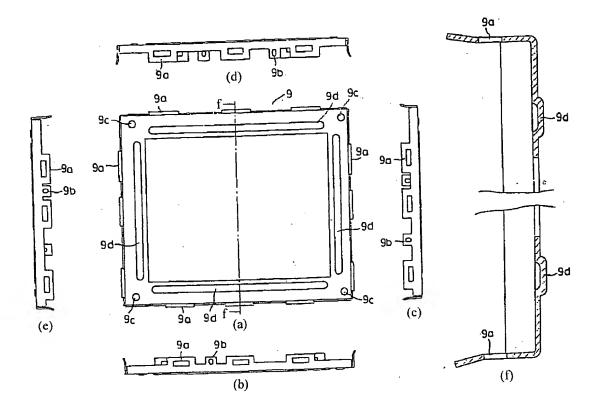


Figure 11

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